



# THE ARKANSAS EARLY CHILDHOOD LETTER



Arkansas Department of  
Health & Human Services  
January/February 2006



**MAKE PLANS TO  
CELEBRATE  
ARKANSAS  
CHILDREN'S WEEK  
APRIL 2 - 8, 2006**

**Theme: Building a Strong Foundation for  
Arkansas Children in High Quality Early  
Care and Education Programs**

**Communication Toolkit: To be mailed in  
January 2006**

**Provider/Parent Activity Toolkit: To be  
mailed in February 2006**





## ARKANSAS CHILDREN'S WEEK COMMUNICATION TOOLKIT

BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION  
FOR ARKANSAS CHILDREN  
ARKANSAS CHILDREN'S WEEK

APRIL 2-8, 2006

Be on the look-out in your mail for a communication toolkit designed to assist you in celebrating Arkansas Children's Week. The toolkit will also be a resource for communication with the media and your local community partners about other special events that your program holds in the future.

You will be receiving the toolkit in January to help you in planning for the 2006 Arkansas Children's Week - April 2 -8!

### The toolkit will include:

- Ideas for ACW events, activities and parent involvement
- Suggested timeline to meet with partners, make contacts and set up a schedule of events
- A sample Proclamation for the mayor or county judge
- Sample press releases
- Samples for letters to the editor
- How to make media contacts
- Reproducible certificates for participants
- T-shirt order forms
- Order form for free materials for use in your program

**AND LOTS MORE!**

**BUILDING A STRONG  
FOUNDATION FOR  
ARKANSAS CHILDREN  
IN HIGH  
QUALITY EARLY CARE  
AND EDUCATION  
PROGRAMS**

You are cordially invited to a  
***Special Event***  
in honor of early care and education  
professionals in Arkansas on Sunday,  
**April 1, 2006**, Little Rock, AR  
3:00 -5:00pm.

Invitations for you and all  
of your staff with all the  
details will follow----so,  
**for now just save the  
date!**



**ARKANSAS CHILDREN'S WEEK**  
**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**  
**To register call 1-888-429-1585 or 870-972-3055.**

Batesville	March 14	St. Pauls' Episcopal, 424 E. Main
Bentonville	March 7	Bentonville School Tiger Athletic Complex, 1702 SE "J" Street
Brinkley	March 27	Brinkley Convention Center, 1501 Weatherby Drive
Cabot	March 2	Cabot UMC Sanctuary, 2003 South Pine
Clarksville	March 9	University of the Ozarks, 415 North College
Conway	March 20	First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 201 South Hill
El Dorado	March 16	First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 201 South Hill
Fayetteville	March 30	The New School, 2514 New School Place
Fort Smith	March 16	Cook Elementary School Cafeteria, 3517 Brooken Hill
Harrison	March 2	First United Methodist, 2nd Season Room, 1100 West Bower
Hot Springs	March 6	Gospel Light, Champion Baptist College, 600 Garland Ave.
Benton	March 28	First Baptist Family Life Center, 211 South Market Street
Jonesboro	March 13	ASU Childhood Services, 615 University Loop East
Paragould	March 30	School of the 21st Century, 427 East Poplar
Little Rock	March 7	NLR First UMC Gymnasium, 6701 JFK
Magnolia	March 6	SAU, 100 E. University, Don W. Reynolds Ctr., Grand Hall, Salon A
Malvern	March 28	First United Methodist, 127 East Page Ave.
Monticello	March 30	UA Monticello, Capitol Room
Mountain Home	March 7	ASU Mountain Home, 1600 South College Dryer Hall, Rm. 103
Pine Bluff	March 11	JRMC Conference Center, 1600 West 40th
Searcy	March 27	ASU Beebe at Searcy, Collegiate Center, 1800 E. Moore
Texarkana	March 21	Sugar Hill Methodist, 1621 Sugar Hill Road
West Memphis	March 28	First United Methodist, 215 North Missouri, John Mack Smith Rm.
Wynne	March 2	First UMC, 800 N. Falls Blvd.

## Grant Writing for Child Care Facilities 2006 Training Schedule

**Module 1 - Beginning** - Writing Successful Grant Requests and Basic Grant Writing Tips (includes the Enhancement Grant and other Division Grants). *Module 1 is appropriate for Family Child Care providers and any Center staff member who may be involved in grant writing.*

**Modules 2 & 3 – Intermediate and Advanced Grant Writing** - These sessions (combined) will include ABC proposals, other State Grant Options, Foundations that Fund Various Child Care Program Needs (such as equipment, learning environments and subsidizing slots), and Federal Grant Applications. *Modules 2 & 3 are appropriate for any child care facility staff member who may be interested in advanced grant writing techniques.*

City	Location	Date	Time
Batesville Module 1	White River Regional Services Center Northcentral Arkansas Child Care Resource Center, 1652 White Drive	March 13, 2006	6:00-8:00pm
Batesville Modules 2 & 3	White River Regional Services Center Northcentral Arkansas Child Care Resource Center, 1652 White Drive	March 14, 2006	8:00am-12:30pm
Jonesboro Modules 1	Dr. Mildred Vance Conference Room ASU Childhood Services Building 615 University Loop East	March 23, 2006	6:00-8:00pm
Jonesboro Modules 2 & 3	Dr. Mildred Vance Conference Room ASU Childhood Services Building 615 University Loop East	March 24, 2006	8:30am-1:00pm
Ft. Smith Modules 1	Central Presbyterian Church Gym 2901 Rogers Avenue	April 3, 2006	6:00-8:00pm
Ft. Smith Module 2 & 3	Central Presbyterian Church Gym 2901 Rogers Avenue	April 4, 2006	8:30am-1:00pm
Harrison Modules 1	First United Methodist Church 1100 West Bower	April 20, 2006	6:00-8:00pm
Harrison Modules 2 & 3	First United Methodist Church 1100 West Bower	April 21, 2006	8:30am-1:00pm
Magnolia Module 1	Southwest Arkansas Planning and Development District Boardroom 600 Bessie Street	May 1, 2006	6:00-8:00pm
Magnolia Modules 2 & 3	Southwest Arkansas Planning and Development District Boardroom 600 Bessie Street	May 2, 2006	8:30am-1:00pm
Beebe Module 1	ASU Beebe Wal-Mart/Regions Room Student Center, 610 N. Pecan	May 18, 2006	6:00-8:00pm

<b>City</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
Beebe Modules 2 & 3	ASU Beebe Wal-Mart/Regions Room Student Center, 610 N. Pecan	May 19, 2006	8:30am-1:00pm
Pine Bluff Module 1	Southeast Arkansas Planning and Development District Building 721 S. Walnut	June 13, 2006	6:00-8:00pm
Pine Bluff Modules 2 & 3	Southeast Arkansas Planning and Development District Building 721 S. Walnut	June 14, 2006	8:30am-1:00pm
Hot Springs Module 1	First United Methodist Church Christian Life Center - Shelton Meeting Rm. 1100 Central Avenue	June 20, 2006	6:00-8:00pm
Hot Springs Module 2 & 3	First United Methodist Church Christian Life Center - Shelton Meeting Rm. 1100 Central Avenue	June 21, 2006	8:30am-1:00pm

**To register for one or more of these workshops, call WRPDD or CHILDREN Staff at 800-737-2237 or in Batesville 870-793-5233. Seating is limited in some locations; please call early to register as workshops will be offered on a first-come, first-serve basis.**



## **CDA News and Updates**

The purpose of the CDA Scholarship program is to improve the quality of early childhood programs in Arkansas.

### **CDA Scholarship Update:**

Effective July 1, 2006, the requirements for obtaining a CDA Scholarship will be to have a minimum of 90 days work experience at the facility in which you are employed **AND** to have completed one of the following five (5) training programs:

1. CCOT (Child Care Orientation Training)
2. Arkansas Children's Program Administration Orientation (ACPAO)
3. Pre-Employment Initiative
4. Family Child Care Provider Orientation (FCCPO)
5. Secondary Child Guidance, Management and Services

You may go to the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education web site at [www.arkansas.gov/childcare](http://www.arkansas.gov/childcare), refer to the SPECTRUM, or call 501-682-9699 for more information.

### **CDA Course Work and Minimum Licensing Standard**

During the calendar year that you are participating in CDA course work (practicum not included) to obtain your CDA Credential, ten (10) hours will count toward the required annual training as noted in the Minimum Licensing Requirements. Verification is required and may be requested from your CDA instructor.

### **CDA Approved Institutions**

Looking for a CDA Approved Institution? Go to the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education web site [www.state.ar.us/childcare/chidevasso.htm](http://www.state.ar.us/childcare/chidevasso.htm)

## **Questions?**

Do not hesitate to call the Division 501-682-9699 and ask for the CDA Coordinator, Donna Alliston.



**THE ARKANSAS  
EARLY CHILDHOOD LETTER**



**The Arkansas Early Childhood  
Commission  
Mike Huckabee, Governor  
Tonya Russell, Director**

Bruce Cohen  
Debra Davis  
Jody Veit-Edrington  
Brian Faulkner  
Barbara Gilkey  
Dr. Joan Harper  
Jerry Hudlow  
Dr. Paul Human  
Debbie Malone  
Karen Marshall  
Karen Massey  
LaCher Rockins  
Hallie Sanford  
Laura Sparks  
Susan Underwood  
Suellen Ward

PO BOX 1437, SLOT S140  
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72203-4608  
(501) 682-4891  
Fax(501) 682-4897  
[www.arkansas.gov/childcare](http://www.arkansas.gov/childcare)

The Arkansas Early Childhood Letter is an  
information service of the  
Division of Child Care and Early  
Childhood Education,  
Department of Health & Human Services.



**Celebrate National School  
Breakfast Week  
March 6 - 10, 2006**

Celebrate National School Breakfast Week (NSBW), March 6 - 10, 2006. Along the way, you can increase participation, show your community the true importance of school meals and communicate all the advantages of a morning meal.

**Caring. Trained.  
Thoughtful. Professional.  
Dedicated. These  
are just a few  
words that  
describe today's  
child nutrition  
professional.**

**ATTN: NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM,  
SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM AND  
SPECIAL MILK PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS**  
**Local Wellness Policy Requirements**



On June 30, 2004, the President signed Public Law 108-265, the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004. Section 204 of this law requires school districts participating in the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program to develop a local wellness policy that addresses student wellness and the growing problem of childhood obesity, by the school year 2006. Local Wellness: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ):

1. What is the Local Wellness Policy?
2. Why does a school district need a Local Wellness Policy?
3. What does the policy require from school districts?
4. Who needs to be involved?
5. What are the deadlines?
6. Where can I get more information and technical support?
7. Are Residential Child Care Institutions (RCCIs) expected to have a wellness policy, in compliance with the requirements in Section 204 of the CN and WIC Reauthorization Act?

8. Are all schools within an LEA that participate in our school meals programs (including the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program and Special Milk Program), bound by the LEA wellness policy, even if a school within the LEA does not participate in any of the programs?
9. Are schools that only participate in the Special Milk Program expected to develop a wellness policy?

To get answers to these questions go to the website:  
[www.fns.usda.gov/tn/Healthy/wellnesspolicy\\_faq.html](http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/Healthy/wellnesspolicy_faq.html)  
For more information contact Vickie Stewart, NSLP, SNP at 1-800-482-5850 ext 682-8869.

# PARENT INFORMATION



DO YOU WORK?

DO YOU HAVE CHILDREN?

IF YES, YOU COULD

GET UP TO

THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS

FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY!

*You must file a tax return. Whether you owe income taxes  
or you don't, you could qualify for:*

**\$** Up to **\$2,100** from the federal Child and Dependent  
Care Tax Credit;

**\$** Up to **\$4,400** from the federal Earned Income Credit; and

**\$** Up to **\$1,000** per child from the federal Child Tax Credit.

Find out more today!

For more information and to find out about the location, dates and hours  
of free tax preparation sites, call the Internal Revenue Service toll-free at  
(800) TAX-1040 or (800) 829-1040.

# Arkansas Children's Week

April 2 - 8, 2006

## T-SHIRT ORDER FORM

\*\*\*\*\*

**T-Shirts for 2006 will be California Blue with 3 color logo on front. The bib apron will be white with the 3 color logo. We are also offering a tote bag in natural with 3 color logo.**

**Customization available, call for a quote!**

**\*\*ALL ORDERS RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 9<sup>TH</sup> WILL BE ENTERED INTO A DRAWING TO WIN A 13" TV/VCR.\*\***

**PLEASE SEND ONLY ONE CHECK AND ONE ORDER FORM PER FACILITY!**

**LAST DAY TO ORDER IS MARCH 23<sup>RD</sup>!**

T-SHIRT	PRICE	QUANTITY	AMOUNT
TODDLER SHIRT (6-12 mo, White)	\$5.00		
YOUTH X-SMALL (2-4)	\$3.25		
YOUTH SMALL (6-8)	\$3.25		
YOUTH MEDIUM (10-12)	\$3.25		
YOUTH LARGE (14-16)	\$3.25		
ADULT SMALL	\$4.00		
ADULT MEDIUM	\$4.00		
ADULT LARGE	\$4.00		
ADULT X-LARGE	\$4.00		
ADULT 2X-LARGE	\$5.00		
ADULT 3X-LARGE	\$5.00		
BIB APRONS (ONE SIZE)	\$7.50		
TOTE BAG (ONE SIZE)	\$4.50		
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>			<b>(1)\$</b>
<b>SHIPPING/HANDLING:</b> ORDERS \$0 - \$36 ADD \$6.00 ORDERS \$37 - \$144 ADD \$7.00 ORDERS \$145 - \$432 ADD \$15.00			
<b>***YOU MUST INCLUDE SHIPPING!***</b>			
<b>TOTAL SHIPPING/HANDLING</b>			<b>(2)\$</b>
<b>SUBTOTAL + SHIPPING/HANDLING</b>			<b>(3)\$</b>
<b>***YOU MUST INCLUDE AR SALES TAX***</b>			
<b>SALES TAX (7.5%)</b>			<b>(4)\$</b>
i.e. Block (3) * 0.075 = Total Amount Enclosed (Block 5)			
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED</b>			<b>(5)\$</b>

### MAIL SHIRTS TO:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIPCODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAIL ALL ORDERS WITH CHECK OR MONEY ORDER MADE PAYABLE TO:

**M&M PROMOTIONS**  
**P.O. BOX 241222**  
**LITTLE ROCK, AR 72223**  
**(501) 224-9881**

[www.mandmpromotions.com](http://www.mandmpromotions.com)

**For your convenience we accept Visa/Mastercard via telephone.**



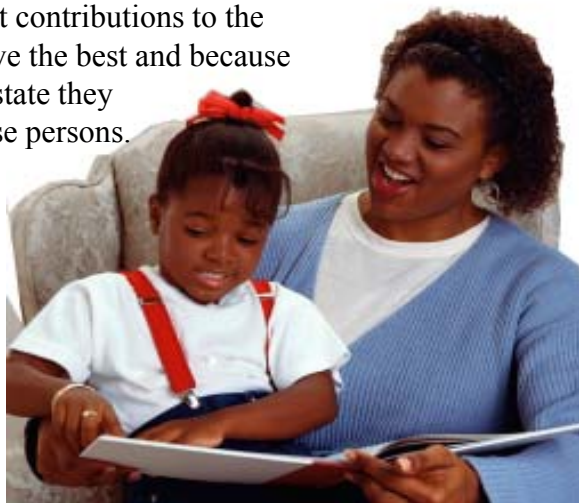
## OUTSTANDING EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL

The Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education and the Arkansas Early Childhood Commission will be accepting nominations for the **OUTSTANDING EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONALS OF 2006**.

We are looking for persons who are making significant contributions to the early childhood field in Arkansas. Our children deserve the best and because of the fine efforts of the professionals throughout our state they receive the best! We want to recognize and honor these persons.

To submit a recommendation, please call 501-682-9699 for a nomination form to be mailed to you or visit the DCCECE website at [www.arkansas.gov/childcare](http://www.arkansas.gov/childcare).

Nominations will be reviewed if received by March 11, 2006. A committee of the Arkansas Early Childhood Commission will review all applications. Nominees will be asked to answer a series of essay questions regarding young children in Arkansas and to submit a resume. The Commission will select those persons who most reflect Outstanding Professionals in the Early Childhood Field.



## ORDER FORM FOR ARKANSAS CHILDREN'S WEEK MATERIALS APRIL 2-8, 2006

**Fax to:** 501-682-4897

**OR mail to:** Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, Box 1437, Slot S160,  
Little Rock, AR 72203

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Program: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of children enrolled \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Qty.) Brochure: Building a Strong  
Foundation for Parents

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Qty.) Working Parents Need Quality Care  
Stickers

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Qty.) Building a Strong Foundation Stickers

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Qty.) Church Bulletin Insert



# NUTRITION ACTION

## Learning Nutrition Through Reading

Are you looking for ways to extend and enhance nutrition education with children? Do you sometimes feel like you need new materials to teach healthy eating habits? Why not consider storybooks? Certain storybooks will complement many of the food and nutrition concepts young children need to learn. Are you going to teach a unit on where food comes from? Ask your librarian about titles such as *Pumpkin, Pumpkin* by Jeanne Titherington, *One Bean* by Anne Rockwell, *Growing Vegetable Soup* by Lois Ehlert, Ruth Krauss's *The Carrot Seed*, and *Milk from Cow to Carton* by Aliko. These books also lend themselves to hands-on gardening, tasting, and cooking activities. Hands-on experiences—such as helping the children grow pumpkins or tend a garden with all the ingredients for soup—will make the storybook come alive.

Maybe you are planning a food theme based on a specific meal. Sometimes children need a gentle reminder of how important breakfast is to their health and energy, and many storybooks can reinforce that message. For starters, look for *Pancakes, Pancakes* by Eric Carle, Tomie dePaola's *Pancakes for Breakfast*, Laura Numeroff's *If You Give A Moose A Muffin*, *Max's Breakfast* by Rosemary Wells, or *Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr. Seuss. Imagine the children's delight when you follow-up a plate of pancakes with a matching story!

Since many children eat lunch at childcare, the midday meal is a great candidate for a story, too. Denise Fleming's *Lunch*, featuring a hungry mouse, is a natural choice, as is the play rhyme book *Peanut Butter and Jelly* by Nadine Westcott. Maurice Sendak's *Chicken Soup with Rice* introduces children to the months of the year along with a popular lunch food.

### Food Groups

Nutrition education in early childhood is often centered on food groups. Many storybooks feature breads and grains, including *Bread and Jam for Frances* by Russell Hoban, *The Unbeatable Bread* by Lyn Hoopes, *Sun Bread* by Elisa Kleven, and Eric Carle's *Walter the Baker*. The worldwide appeal of breads and grains is celebrated in several storybooks with a multicultural emphasis, including Ann Morris's *Bread, Bread, Bread*, the bilingual (English and Spanish) *Bread is for Eating* by David and Phillis Gershator, and Norah Dooley's trilogy *Everybody Bakes Bread*, *Everybody Cooks Rice*, and *Everybody Brings Noodles*, which introduces children to many types of grains through stories set in diverse neighborhoods. These books may lead to discussions with children of different cultures and the foods people eat. What an opportunity to expand children's worlds through food, a daily part of their lives!

Fruits and vegetables are often celebrated in children's storybooks. As you encourage the children to eat a variety of foods and expand their awareness of the many fruits and vegetables that are available, try sharing Lois Ehlert's *Eating the Alphabet: Fruits and Vegetables from A to Z*. This book colorfully depicts foods from artichokes to zucchini and is sure to spark children's curiosity about unfamiliar foods. *The Wild Bunch*, by Dee Lillegard and Rex Barron, gives fruits and vegetables personalities using rhyming text. In Vivian French's books *Oliver's Vegetables* and *Oliver's Fruit Salad*, Oliver discovers, with his grandparents' gentle help, that fruits and vegetables are tastier than he thought.

Apples, a favorite fruit of children, headline *The Apple Pie Tree* by Zoe Hall, *The Seasons of Arnold's Apple Tree* by Gail Gibbons, and *How To Make An Apple Pie and See the World* by Marjorie Priceman. Steven Kellogg's *Johnny Appleseed* is a storybook that looks at apples in the context of an appealing, and real, folk hero. Look for other books that explore fruits, such as *The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry*, and *the Big Hungry Bear* by Don and Audrey Wood, *Blueberries for Sal* by

Robert McCloskey, and *Cherries and Cherry Pits* by Vera Williams.

A frequent challenge of feeding young children is successfully introducing vegetables into their diets. Storybooks that may support your efforts to encourage children to eat vegetables include *No More Vegetables* by Nicole Rubel, *Corn is Maize* by Aliko, *The Ugly Vegetables* by Grace Lin, and *The Victory Garden Alphabet Book* by Jerry Pallotta and Bob Thomson. A Russian folktale inspired *The Gigantic Turnip* by Alexsei Tolstoy and Niamh Sharkey. Other stories of giant vegetables include Jan Peck's *The Giant Carrot* and Aubrey's Davis's *The Enormous Potato*.

### Special Diets and Picky Eaters

Another food-related challenge of early childhood is the picky eater. Storybook authors have recognized this phenomenon of early childhood and responded with a number of books that address the issue in ways that appeal to children. Look for *D.W. the Picky Eater* by Marc Brown, *Gregory the Terrible Eater* by Mitchell Sharmat, and *I Will Never, Not Ever, Eat a Tomato* by Lauren Child, to support your efforts to expand the picky eater's diet.

You may provide care for children who have specific health or nutrition concerns related to food, such as allergies or diabetes. There are several excellent storybooks for children that explain nutrition and food related conditions. They are not as common in library collections as the other books listed here, but they can be quite useful to the childcare provider.

Food allergies are the subject of several storybooks, including Nicole Smith's *Allie the Allergic Elephant* (peanut allergy), Aaron Zevy's *No Nuts for Me!* (nut allergy), Elizabeth Nassau's *The Peanut Butter Jam* (peanut allergy), Ellen Weiner's *Taking Food Allergies to School* (multiple food allergies), and Robyn Rogers' *No Lobster, Please!* (seafood allergy). Books about diabetes include *Even Little Kids Get Diabetes* by Nadine Westcott and *Rufus Comes Home* by Kim Gosselin.

Young children love humor, and there are books about food that will tickle their funny bones. There are several retellings of the story about the old woman who swallowed a fly, as well as a number of humorous food storybooks, including *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* by Judi Barrett, *The Giant Jam Sandwich* by John Vernon Lord and Janet Burroway, and *On Top of Spaghetti* by Gene Barretta. Storybooks can bring new dimensions to nutrition education with children. In addition to the food and nutrition concepts the books teach, they also promote literacy skills.

Marna Holland, Ed.S., CFCS, visiting assistant professor in the birth-K program, Western Carolina University.

### Internet Resources

**Children's Books about Food, Eating and Health**, North Dakota Nutrition Council & North Dakota State University Extension Service, [www.ndsu.edu/ndnc/foodbooks](http://www.ndsu.edu/ndnc/foodbooks)

**Children's Books about Nutrition**, American School Food Service Association, [www.asfsa.org/childnutrition/education/kidbooks.asp](http://www.asfsa.org/childnutrition/education/kidbooks.asp)

**Children's Books that Encourage Healthy Eating**, University of Missouri Family Nutrition Education Program, <http://outreach.missouri.edu/fnep/childrensbooks.htm>

**Eating, Reading and 'Rithmetic: Choosing Books about Food for Kids**, Iowa State University Extension, [www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/N3617.pdf](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/N3617.pdf)

**Nourishing Children with Books**, Virginia Cooperative Extension, [www.ext.vt.edu/pubs/preschoolnutr/348-950/348-950.html](http://www.ext.vt.edu/pubs/preschoolnutr/348-950/348-950.html)

**Nutrition Education: Popular Books for Children**, University of Wisconsin Extension, Marathon County, [www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/marathon/wnep/books.html](http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/marathon/wnep/books.html)

**Story a Month:**

[www.arkansas.gov/childcare](http://www.arkansas.gov/childcare)



Department of Health & Human Services  
Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education  
P.O. Box 1437, Slot S140  
Little Rock, AR 72203-4608

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
LITTLE ROCK  
PERMIT NO. 1045

## SAVE THE DATE!!!

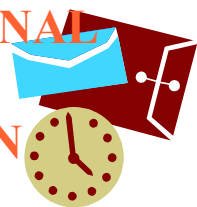
Please mark your calendars for the first Welcome the Children Celebrating Cultural Harmony Conference to be held May 11 - 13, 2006 at the Wyndham Riverfront Hotel in North Little Rock, AR. Workshops of interest to early childhood educators will be presented on various cultures descriptive of Arkansas Families. For additional information, watch the Welcome the Children website [www.uams.edu/welcomethechildren](http://www.uams.edu/welcomethechildren) or contact Sabrina Zarco at [zarcosabrina@uams.edu](mailto:zarcosabrina@uams.edu) or 501-682-9924 or 800-342-2923 (V/TDD).



**SAVE THE DATE  
2ND ANNUAL  
ARKANSAS EARLY  
CHILDHOOD  
CURRICULUM FAIR  
MARCH 2 - 3, 2006**

New Licensing Requirements have been mailed to all child care programs. The effective date for these new requirements will be January 16, 2006. Please contact your Licensing Specialist or call the Licensing Central Office at (501) 682-8590 or 1-800-445-3316 if you have any questions.

**CACFP REGIONAL  
TRAININGS  
COMING SOON**



March 2, 2006

Pine Bluff, Little  
Rock, North Little  
Rock AND  
Jacksonville

Notices will be mailed out at a later date to confirm the Date, Time and Location.